



Annual Report 2025

New York State Senate Standing Committee on
Children and Families

Senator Jabari Brisport

Chair

Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins
President Pro Tempore
NYS Senate Majority Leader



CHAIR
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

COMMITTEE MEMBER

BANKS
CODES
HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
LIBRARIES
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTS

**THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK**



JABARI BRISPORT
SENATOR, 25TH DISTRICT

ALBANY OFFICE
805 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
PHONE: (518) 455-3451
FAX: (518) 426-6854

DISTRICT OFFICE
365 STOCKTON STREET, 2ND FL.
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11206
PHONE: (718) 643-6140
FAX: (718) 237-4137

E-MAIL: BRISPORT@NYSENATE.GOV

January 2026

The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Temporary President and Majority Leader
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Senator Stewart-Cousins:

I am pleased to transmit the Annual Report of the Senate's Standing Committee on Children and Families for the 2025 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am proud to continue to lead our efforts to address important matters under my committee's jurisdiction and to carry on this important work.

During the 2025 Session, this Committee met four times and reported twenty-two bills. We have worked tirelessly with the advocate community, labor leaders, parents, and administrators to address important issues in New York State, moving the State toward a universal child care system, addressing the unacceptable family separations that occur under our family policing system, and alleviating our State's childhood poverty, among many other topics.

I thank my colleagues who served on the Committee for their efforts and support of the work that was done in the Committee this year, and I thank you for the continued support from the Majority Conference in the Committee's operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. B.", written over a light blue circular watermark.

Sen. Jabari Brisport
Chair, Children and Families Committee

2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

NEW YORK STATE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

**Senator Jabari Brisport,
Chairperson**

Committee Members

Samra G. Brouk

Kristen Gonzalez

Zellnor Y. Myrie

Roxanne J. Persaud

Robert G. Rolison (Ranking Member)

Bill Weber

Committee Staff

Jessica Keenan, Senior Counsel

Lahmar Louis, Senior Analyst

James Ostaszewski, Committee Director

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW

The New York State Senate Standing Committee on Children and Families has legislative oversight responsibilities for issues concerning child care, foster care, child abuse, adoptions, custody and support, neglect and visitation, juvenile delinquency, determinations of any need of supervision, and protective and preventive services.

During the 2025 Legislative Session, one hundred and twenty-six bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, twenty-two were reported from the Committee and eight of those bills were signed into law. A list of all bills that were reported from the Committee is provided at the end of this report.

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The following key bills were acted on by the Committee in 2025:

- **Anti-Harassment in Reporting Act.** This legislation responsibly reforms the reporting requirements for the State Central Register (SCR) to restrict the usage of anonymous reports that have been used to harass families and waste child protective services resources.
- **Child Care Decoupling.** This bill would “decouple” New York State’s child care assistance from restrictive and unnecessary work requirements, and therefore make child care assistance more available, and with fewer restrictions.
- **Reforming Youth Interrogation.** This legislation seeks to prevent coercive interrogation of young people by the police, as in the case of the “Exonerated Five” young people who were falsely accused of a terrible crime in Central Park. This bill passed the Committee, but has not yet been acted on by the full Senate.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ROUNDTABLES & NOMINATIONS

The Chair conducted various stakeholder meetings and a roundtable discussion regarding the Family Miranda Act.

TWO HOUSE BILLS

In 2025, twenty-two bills were reported from the Standing Committee on Children and Families. Of these bills, the Governor has signed eight into law and vetoed three. Below is a summary of key legislation that moved through the Committee.

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.00550A	BRISPORT	Requires a caller making a report of suspected child abuse or maltreatment to the central register to leave their name and contact information; prohibits the office of children and family services from releasing information identifying a person who made such a report.	Chaptered 668
S.01926	PERSAUD	Requires each social services district to maintain a waiting list of eligible families who have applied for child care assistance; requires the local districts to report such list to the office of children and family services who shall then compile such reports and issue one report to the legislature annually; requires the social services districts to collect data regarding the income of families who have applied, were denied and received child care assistance and issue a report to the office of children and family services who shall then compile such reports and issue one report to the legislature annually.	Chaptered 676
S.03781	BRISPORT	Requires the office of children and family services to provide luggage to youth in foster care; provides that such luggage shall be distributed to social services districts for distribution to foster care youth; requires the office of children and family services to submit an annual report to the governor and the legislature about the distribution of luggage to foster care youth.	Chaptered 684
S.04914B	HOYLMAN-SIGAL	Protects individuals who provide or receive legally protected health activity, including reproductive health care and gender-affirming care, from criminal or civil liability or professional sanctions imposed by jurisdictions outside the state.	Chaptered 694
S.04929	BROUK	Requires one caregiver for every two children under eighteen months of age in group family day care homes and family day care homes.	Substituted By A.4003 - Vetoed Memorandum 103

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.05242	BRISPORT	Relates to collecting data regarding alternative living arrangements for children who are at a substantial risk of maltreatment.	Substituted By A.744 - Vetoed Memorandum 119
S.06226	RIVERA	Provides training to staff members accepting registrations, issuing licenses or conducting inspections of child day care homes, programs or facilities on the detection of controlled substances.	Substituted By A.1382 - Chaptered 619
S.08197	BRISPORT	Relates to the right to counsel in certain family court proceedings regarding violations of orders of child support and to establish paternity or parentage in the family court. Unified Court System	Vetoed Memorandum 98
S.08198	BRISPORT	Relates to requiring certain records checks in child custody proceedings involving orders of protection; repeals certain provisions relating thereto. Unified Court System	Substituted By A.8407 - Chaptered 536

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.00179	PERSAUD	Relates to authorizing the payment of costs, up to eighty dollars, of diapers for an eligible child two years of age or younger for children receiving safety net assistance.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.00550A	BRISPORT	Requires a caller making a report of suspected child abuse or maltreatment to the central register to leave their name and contact information; prohibits the office of children and family services from releasing information identifying a person who made such a report.	Chaptered 668
S.00878B	BAILEY	Amends procedures required for the custodial interrogation of children to provide additional protections and for taking juveniles and sixteen and seventeen year olds into custody.	Reported to Senate Codes
S.01056	SERRANO	Relates to the provision of criminal history background checks free of charge to mentoring programs operated by not-for-profit corporations.	Passed the Senate
S.01926	PERSAUD	Requires each social services district to maintain a waiting list of eligible families who have applied for child care assistance; requires the local districts to report such list to the office of children and family services who shall then compile such reports and issue one report to the legislature annually; requires the social services districts to collect data regarding the income of families who have applied, were denied and received child care assistance and issue a report to the office of children and family services who shall then compile such reports and issue one report to the legislature annually.	Chaptered 676

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.02001	BRISPORT	Provides that a caregiver shall be eligible for assistance for child care under the child care block grant regardless of the hours the parent actually works.	Senate Rules
S.03048	BRISPORT	Relates to the confidentiality and expungement of records in juvenile delinquency cases in the family court; requires certain records to be expunged automatically.	Reported to Senate Judiciary
S.03624	HELMING	Relates to the required disclosure upon the release of a juvenile or adolescent offender from the custody of the office of children and family services of certain records that are necessary to ascertain the nature of such offender's conviction and would be beneficial in identifying and mitigating any risk that such offender could pose if released.	Senate Children and Families
S.03781	BRISPORT	Requires the office of children and family services to provide luggage to youth in foster care; provides that such luggage shall be distributed to social services districts for distribution to foster care youth; requires the office of children and family services to submit an annual report to the governor and the legislature about the distribution of luggage to foster care youth.	Chaptered 684
S.03938A	HOYLMAN-SIGAL	Directs the office of victim services, in consultation with the office for the prevention of domestic violence, to establish a statewide supervised visitation initiative including culturally sensitive services that provide language access for those who need it and that are affordable for those with limited means to pay; requires the submission of regular assessments and reports.	Reported to Senate Finance

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.04914B	HOYLMAN-SIGAL	Protects individuals who provide or receive legally protected health activity, including reproductive health care and gender-affirming care, from criminal or civil liability or professional sanctions imposed by jurisdictions outside the state.	Chaptered 694
S.04929	BROUK	Requires one caregiver for every two children under eighteen months of age in group family day care homes and family day care homes.	Substituted By A.4003 - Vetoed Memorandum 103
S.05242	BRISPORT	Relates to collecting data regarding alternative living arrangements for children who are at a substantial risk of maltreatment.	Substituted By A.744 - Vetoed Memorandum 119
S.05437	CLEARE	Allows prospective and current agency personnel receive certification through remote training methods; requires the establishment of rules and regulations of such remote training.	Senate Rules
S.06225	RIVERA	Requires inspections of child day care homes, programs and facilities include the full premises; requires providers of a family day care home or group family day care home to disclose to the office of children and family services all persons who reside in the home where child day care is being provided; requires all providers of child day care to receive training for, provide and maintain onsite opioid antagonists for use during emergencies.	Passed the Senate
S.06226	RIVERA	Provides training to staff members accepting registrations, issuing licenses or conducting inspections of child day care homes, programs or facilities on the detection of controlled substances.	Substituted By A.1382 - Chaptered 619
S.06753	BRISPORT	Limits the number of cases a foster care worker may have under their supervision at any one time to 16 cases.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.07117	SALAZAR	Authorizes the correctional association to inspect residential juvenile detention facilities.	Passed the Senate

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.07318	BRISPORT	Establishes standards for caseloads for child protective services workers; requires the state to pay for one hundred percent of the costs associated with compliance of such caseload standard; makes related provisions.	Reported to Senate Finance
S07451	HOYLMAN-SIGAL	Provides that the judge shall not prohibit a parent from undergoing gender reassignment.	Passed the Senate
S.07778	BRISPORT	Requires commissioners of local social services districts to screen, apply for, and use and conserve retirement, survivors and disability insurance, supplemental security income, veterans' or any other federal social security benefits on behalf of children placed in foster care; provides for responsibilities of local commissioners of social services appointed to serve as the representative payee for a child; provides for technical assistance and financial literacy for foster children; makes related provisions.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.08197	BRISPORT	Relates to the right to counsel in certain family court proceedings regarding violations of orders of child support and to establish paternity or parentage in the family court. Unified Court System	Vetoed Memorandum 98
S.08198	BRISPORT	Relates to requiring certain records checks in child custody proceedings involving orders of protection; repeals certain provisions relating thereto. Unified Court System	Substituted By A.8407 - Chaptered 536

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